



COUNTY BOROUGH OF OLDHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Oldham.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Shannon and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my eighth Annual Report on the health of Oldham, and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1943.

The Report relates to the fourth year of war. Influenza was prevalent in November and December and though generally mild in type, serious complications developed in the older age groups, often with fatal results. During this epidemic the deaths due to influenza and bronchitis rose sharply and were partly responsible for the rise in the death rate to 16.27 compared with 15.0 per thousand of the population for the previous year. The birth rate continued to rise and reached the figure of 16.43 per thousand of the population. The maternal mortality rate of 3.67 also shows an increase and compares with 2.29 for England and Wales. I regret to report that five deaths occurred from Diphtheria. Of these, 4 were children under 15 years of age, none of whom had been immunised. There were 71 deaths registered from Tuberculosis (all forms) and the death rate was 0.63 per thousand of the population. This rate compares with 0.53 for the previous year, and is still below the average rate of 0.73 per thousand of the population for the pre-war years.

During the year, Sir Ernest Rock Carling, M.A., B.S., F.R.C.S., and Dr. T. S. McIntosh, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. (Ed.), D.P.H., visited the hospitals under your control in connection with the Hospital Survey of the North-Western Area. These officers were appointed by the Ministry of Health with the following terms of reference:—

“To survey the hospitals (other than mental hospitals and mental deficiency institutions) in the geographical counties of Lancashire and Cheshire and in the North Wales and other neighbouring areas which look to those counties for hospital treatment; and having regard to the information thus obtained, and to the general principles of post-war hospital policy laid down by the Minister of Health in the House of Commons on 9th October, 1941, to advise the Minister what areas would appropriately be served by a Hospital system centred on the teaching hospitals of Liverpool and Manchester, and what modifications or extensions of the existing hospital facilities would be necessary or desirable to give effect to that policy”.

They were afforded every facility and expressed appreciation of the assistance given to them.

Early in the year the Minister of Health had under review the problem of the prevention and treatment of venereal disease in the light of the increased incidence of the disease during the war, and the need for additional measures to reduce the dangers to the public health and the

drain on manpower caused by the spread of the disease, and a publicity campaign was launched for the purpose of educating the public in these matters. This disease has too long been discussed in whispers and the floodlight of publicity will undoubtedly reduce the number of innocent and ignorant victims. It is interesting to note that while the new cases of syphilis and gonorrhoea show an increase over the previous year—225 as compared with 193, the number of diagnosed non-venereal cases increased from 74 to 202.

In February, the first report of the Nurses Salaries Committee, (the "Rushcliffe" Report) was received and was shortly followed by the Report of the Midwives' Salaries Committee. These reports were adopted and fully implemented.

In April, Memorandum 266/T was received. This provides for maintenance allowances, which are recoverable from the Government, to be paid to certain cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and meets the urgent need long advocated by workers in the field of tuberculosis. It should be recorded that this progress was only made possible by the need for manpower and the urgency of the war effort. In view of the exclusion from the provisions of Memorandum 266/T of all non-pulmonary and many pulmonary cases, the Westhulme Hospital and Tuberculosis Sub-Committee unanimously approved proposals for a local Scheme of maintenance allowances under which applications are considered from all persons ineligible for financial assistance under the Government Scheme, who would otherwise have need to seek assistance under the provisions of the Poor Law. In this way the Council have further implemented their declaration made under the Local Government Act, 1929.

In September, Miss Lucy Pugh retired from the position of Superintendent Health Visitor. For over 24 years, Miss Pugh had been on the staff of the Department. She helped to initiate our present Child Welfare Service, and in her work influenced tens of thousands of Oldham mothers. At a special meeting of members of the Committee and the staff the Chairman of the Health Committee extended to her the good wishes of us all, and presented her with a practical token of our affection and esteem.

Another year of war has passed and the staff of the Department have continued to perform Civil Defence and other wartime duties, in addition to the routine work which continues to increase. I wish to again record my deep gratitude and appreciation of the service each member has rendered.

Finally, I wish to tender my very best thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. CHALMERS KEDDIE,
Medical Officer of Health.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1943.

Chairman:

Councillor S. T. Marron.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor W. H. Taylor.

The Mayor:

Alderman Thomas Driver, J.P.

Alderman J. Bannon, J.P.

Alderman A. Hallwood, J.P.

Alderman H. Shepherd, J.P.

Councillor H. Clough.

Councillor R. Dawson,

Councillor A. Tweedale. (to July).

Councillor E. Henthorn. (from July).

Councillor F. Feber.

Councillor W. T. Glover.

Councillor Mrs. G. Shannon.

Councillor Dr. G. A. Taylor.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

(A Sub-Committee of the Health Committee).

Chairman—Councillor S. T. Marron.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor

The Mayor.

W. H. Taylor.

Alderman J. Bannon, J.P.

Councillor R. Dawson.

Councillor H. Clough.

Councillor F. Feber.

Councillor Dr. G. A. Taylor.

Councillor Mrs. G. Shannon.

with—

Mrs. F. J. Bainbridge, B.A.

Miss A. Rothwell.

Mrs. M. Jackson, J.P.

Mrs. G. Morrell.

GENERAL HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Dr. G. A. Taylor.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor

S. T. Marron.

The Mayor.

Councillor W. T. Glover.

Alderman H. Shepherd, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. G. Shannon.

Councillor W. H. Taylor.

WESTHULME HOSPITAL AND TUBERCULOSIS SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Alderman J. Bannon, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor

W. T. Glover.

The Mayor.

Councillor R. Dawson.

Alderman A. Hallwood, J.P.

Councillor S. T. Marron.

Councillor W. H. Taylor.

GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor H. Clough.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor F. Feber.

The Mayor.

Councillor S. T. Marron.

Alderman A. Hallwood, J.P.

Councillor W. H. Taylor.

Councillor A. Tweedale (to July).

Councillor E. Henthorn (from July).

In July, Councillor A. Tweedale resigned from the Committee. In the same month, Alderman H. Shepherd was appointed Chairman of the General Hospital Sub-Committee vice Councillor Dr. G. A. Taylor, who was later made Vice-Chairman of this Sub-Committee on the resignation of Councillor S. T. Marron, who had hitherto held that position.

GENERAL STATISTICS FOR 1943.

Area in Statute Acres (1931 census)	4,735 acres
Enumerated Population (1931 census)	140,314
Registrar General's Estimate of Population, middle of 1943	112,300
Density of Population, i.e. Number of persons per acre (whole Borough)	24
Number of Houses in the Borough, December, 1943 ...	40,692
Number of New Houses erected in 1943	—
Rateable Value (March, 1943)	£694,907
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1943)	£2,645
Amount of Poor Law (Outdoor) Relief paid in 1943 ...	£29,970
Weekly average number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief (554 cases)	915
Approximate total number of insured persons, 31st December, 1943	66,938
Number of Marriages during 1943	904
Persons married per thousand of population	8.05

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births. (Males 950, Females 895)	1,845
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population ...	16.43
Stillbirths. (Males 41, Females 21)	62
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Births	32.51
Deaths. (Males 896, Females 931)	1,827
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population ...	16.27
Maternal Deaths	7
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.67
Deaths of Infants Under One Year	114
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live Births	61.79
Other Death Rates per 1, 000 of estimated population:—	
All forms of Tuberculosis	0.63
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.55
Other Respiratory Diseases	2.68
Cancer	1.98
Principal Zymotic Diseases: Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup	0.11

Births.

VITAL STATISTICS.

There were 2,885 live births (1,471 males and 1,414 females), registered in the Borough during the year. After correction for inward (23) and outward (1,063) transferable births, the net total of births is 1,845 (950 males and 895 females). The illegitimate live births numbered 100, or 5.42% of the total live births.

Stillbirths.

During the year 103 stillbirths were registered. After being adjusted by inward and outward transfers the number is 62.

Deaths.

During the year 2,292 deaths (1,131 males and 1,161 females) were registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (77) and outward (542) transferable deaths, the net total deaths is 1,827, (896 males and 931 females), an increase of 112 on the total for 1942.

Of the 1,827 deaths registered, 847 (or 46·36%) occurred in one or other of the following Institutions:—

Boundary Park General Hospital	...	...	377
Westwood Park Institution	...	...	296
Oldham Royal Infirmary	...	...	124
Westhulme Hospital	...	...	9
Strinesdale Sanatorium	...	...	34
Other Institutions	...	...	7

Of the total deaths, 959 (or 52·48%) occurred in persons aged 65 years or over.

The following are the chief causes of death in order of frequency:—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	458
Cancer	...	...	...	...	222
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	192
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	174
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	89
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	71
Suicide and Other Violence	...	...	...	...	65
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	57
Arterial Disease	...	...	...	...	42

These groups of diseases represent 1,370 deaths occurring during the year, or 75% of the total deaths registered.

Infantile Mortality.

There were 167 deaths (98 males and 69 females) of infants under one year of age registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (4) and outward (57) transferable deaths, the net total of infant deaths is 114 (67 males and 47 females), an increase of 4 on the total for 1942. Of the 114 deaths, 12 were those of illegitimate children, and 42 occurred in infants under 4 weeks old, equivalent to a neo-natal mortality of 22·76 per thousand births.

The following table shows the neo-natal mortality, compared with the infantile mortality during the last ten years:—

Year	Infant Deaths under one month	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	Infant Deaths under one year	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births
1934	66	38·59	121	70·76
1935	58	34·05	106	62·24
1936	67	39·76	118	70·03
1937	60	35·61	115	69·00
1938	66	39·26	103	61·27
1939	47	30·08	95	60·86
1940	48	31·05	105	67·91
1941	38	23·04	107	64·88
1942	55	32·22	110	64·44
1943	42	22·76	114	61·79

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1943.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Year 1943	Infantile Mortality Rate Average Five Years 1938—1942	Death Rate from Phthisis	Death Rate from other Tubercular Diseases	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)		TOTAL
							Puerperal Sepsis	Other Causes	
England & Wales ...	16·5	12·1	49	53	*	*	0·73	1·56	2·29
126 Great Towns ...	18·6	14·2	58	60	*	*	*	*	*
Birkenhead ...	21·9	14·8	74	76	0·8	0·2	0·76	0·76	1·52
Blackburn ...	15·2	15·9	58·1	63·5	0·58	0·06	—	1·22	1·22
Burnley ...	16·52	16·46	57·4	68·4	0·51	0·13	—	1·47	1·47
Bury ...	15·13	15·74	26	64	0·34	0·10	—	3·60	3·60
Halifax ...	17·1	15·4	50	56	0·62	0·13	0·63	1·26	1·89
Huddersfield ...	16·12	14·9	51	76	0·571	0·094	—	1·02	1·02
Manchester ...	18·66	15·50	60·88	69·86	0·91	0·16	1·04	1·29	2·33
Oldham ...	16·43	16·27	61·79	63·87	0·55	0·08	1·05	2·62	3·67
Preston ...	17·89	14·89	68	69	0·68	0·16	0·99	0·99	1·98
Rochdale ...	15·5	16·2	46	69	0·44	0·12	2·28	3·05	5·33
St. Helens ...	19·8	13·0	72·5	72·7	0·64	0·12	0·49	2·91	3·40
Salford ...	19·45	15·57	72	79	0·97	0·15	0·97	—	0·97
Stockport ...	17·30	14·00	64·97	65·85	0·48	0·09	—	2·20	2·20
Wallasey ...	21·0	14·3	48·6	59·74	0·69	0·06	—	1·82	1·82
Warrington ...	19·8	12·3	76	69	0·75	0·14	0·67	2·03	2·70
Wigan ...	18·32	14·30	71	81	0·63	0·18	—	2·70	2·70

*Not available.

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during the Year 1943

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES	M	896	67	6	6	11	14	19	36	92	185	298	162
	F	931	47	5	6	9	23	26	49	104	163	242	257
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever	M	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
3 Scarlet Fever	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Whooping Cough	M	4	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria... ..	M	3	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	42	...	...	...	...	3	10	8	7	12	2	...
	F	20	...	...	...	...	7	5	3	2	2	1	...
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	M	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
	F	7	...	...	...	1	4	...	2	...	...	...	...
8 Syphilitic Diseases	M	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	2	1	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
9 Influenza	M	17	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	6	2	4
	F	25	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	4	5	6	7
10 Measles	M	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11 Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Acute Infective Encephalitis	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
13 Cancer of Buccal cavity & Oesophagus	M	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	3	1
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum... ..	M	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	8	2
	F	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	5	5	2
15 Cancer of Uterus	F	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	4	4	1
16 Cancer of Breast	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	F	16	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	8	2	...
17 Cancer of all other sites	M	79	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	10	22	30	14
	F	66	...	1	1	1	1	1	5	9	15	22	10
18 Diabetes	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	2
	F	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	...
19 Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	M	69	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	41	12
	F	105	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	22	37	26
20 Heart Diseases	M	220	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	20	46	101	47
	F	238	...	...	...	1	3	5	10	17	39	81	82
21 Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	M	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	7	6
	F	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	16
22 Bronchitis	M	103	4	...	...	1	...	...	4	10	30	40	14
	F	89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	21	35	27
23 Pneumonia	M	51	17	...	1	1	1	...	1	11	9	8	2
	F	37	9	...	1	3	1	1	2	6	5	7	2
24 Other Respiratory Diseases	M	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	4	1
	F	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	1	2	2
25 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	M	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	1	1	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
26 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	M	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	7	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27 Appendicitis	M	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
28 Other Digestive Diseases	M	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	1
	F	23	5	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	5	4	4
29 Nephritis	M	31	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7	6	7	4
	F	26	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	5	5	4	4
30 Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis... ..	F	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
31 Other Maternal Causes	F	5	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	...
32 Premature Birth	M	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33 Congenital Malformation, birth injury, etc.	M	17	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	13	12	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34 Suicide	M	13	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	2	4	4	...
	F	7	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	2	...	...	...
35 Road Traffic Accidents	M	7	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	2	...
	F	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
36 Other Violent Causes	M	14	1	1	2	...	2	1	1	1	2	1	2
	F	21	...	1	...	1	...	2	1	...	5	2	9
37 All Other Causes	M	111	4	2	1	4	2	1	4	2	9	32	50
	F	131	3	...	...	2	2	1	6	15	15	24	63

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1943.

Deaths from stated causes and various ages under one year.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 day.	1—2 days.	2—3 days.	3—4 days.	4—5 days.	5—6 days.	6—7 days.	Total under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under one month.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.	Total under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES—Certified ...	13	7	2	1	1	1	...	25	4	9	4	42	27	26	12	7	114
Uncertified
Measles
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria
Influenza
T.B. of Nervous System
T.B. of Intestines and Peritoneum
Other T.B. Diseases
Syphilis
Meningitis
Convulsions ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis
Pneumonia
Broncho-Pneumonia
Other Respiratory Diseases
Inflammation of Stomach
Diarrhoea and Enteritis
Hernia-Intestinal Obstruction
Congenital Malformations	1	1	1	...	...	...	3	2	1	...	6	2	1	2	...	10
Congenital Debility and Sclerema	4
Icterus	1
Premature Birth ...	7	2	...	...	1	1	...	11	1	5	1	18	...	...	...	...	18
Diseases of umbilicus
Atelectasis ...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	6
Suffocation in Bed and not stated
Congenital Heart Disease	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Injury at Birth ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	1	5	...	...	...	...	5
Other Causes	1	1	...	2	...	5	...	1	8
TOTALS	13	7	2	1	1	1	...	25	4	9	4	42	27	26	12	7	114

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Pathological Services.

As in previous years the laboratory work was carried out at the Oldham Royal Infirmary and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

The following examinations were made for the various Departments:

	Health Dept.	West- hulme Hospital	Strines- dale Sana- torium	Wartime Nurseries	Totals
Swabs (for Diphtheria) ...	1,086	2,555	—	—	3,641
Virulence Tests ...	—	7	—	—	7
Widal Tests	4	6	—	—	10
Fæces and Urine ...	19	11	2	18	50
Cerebro-spinal Fluid	1	19	—	—	20
Other examinations...	33	4	18	—	55
TOTALS	1,143	2,602	20	18	3,783

During the year a special section of the Health Committee was appointed to discuss with representatives of the Oldham Royal Infirmary, the establishment of a Joint Pathological Service which would undertake all the pathological work of the Public Health Department, and the hospitals of the parent bodies. Joint agreement was reached and at a special meeting of the Health Committee in December, it was resolved that the draft scheme be recommended to the Council for adoption and that an advertisement be issued for the appointment of Medical Director for the Oldham Laboratory Board.

Supply of Insulin.

In January, Ministry of Health Circular 2734 was received intimating that the Minister gave approval to the supply of Insulin by Local Education Authorities and Public Health Authorities, free or at a reduced price, in certain cases to persons suffering from diabetes. The recommendations contained in this Circular were adopted and supplies of Insulin made available. These are only provided in accordance with a medical prescription. During the year 29 persons were supplied with Insulin under this arrangement at a cost of £51 19s. 8d. The amount received from patients contributions was £3 10s. 0d.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS—CORPORATION EMPLOYEES.

During the year the Medical Staff of the Department undertook medical examinations for the various Corporation Departments as follows:

Department.	Entrants.	Disability Pensions	Total
Borough Ambulance Service ...	3	—	
Baths and Wash Houses ...	3	2	
Borough Engineer & Surveyor's ...	—	2	
Borough Treasurer's ...	1	—	
Boundary Park General Hospital ...	38	—	
Carrying and Cleansing ...	24	5	
Education ...	14	—	
Electricity ...	26	5	
Gas, and Gas and Water ...	29	10	
Health ...	28	1	
Maternity and Child Welfare ...	24	—	
Parks and Cemeteries ...	5	1	
Passenger Transport ...	61	12	
Police ...	1	—	
Public Assistance ...	27	—	
Public Libraries ...	3	—	
Sewage ...	3	—	
Street Lighting ...	2	—	
Town Clerk's ...	2	1	
Waterworks ...	—	1	
Totals ...	294	40	334

SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS.

Transport:—

Road Traffic Acts ...	91	
Others ...	5	96

Waterworks:—

Sickness ...	6	
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Civil Defence:—

Training Centre ...	130	
Civil Nursing Reserve ...	4	
For other Authorities ...	2	

Total examinations made ...	572
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Two samples of blood were taken for Widal Tests from employees of the Waterworks Department.

BOUNDARY PARK GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The work of the Hospital continued to increase, the number of admissions being 8,919 as compared with 8,594 in 1942. The number of confinements increased from 1,929 in 1942, to 2,212. The additional work involved imposed a heavy strain on the medical and nursing staffs of the Hospital.

In February, Miss A. M. Busley tendered her resignation as Matron to take up an appointment as Deputy Regional Nursing Officer to the Ministry of Health for the Midland area. Miss A. E. Knight, Assistant Matron, was appointed her successor.

In March, Dr. R. A. Jackson, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., tendered his resignation as Visiting and Consulting Surgeon. Mr. J. C. Jefferson, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. of Rochdale, agreed to undertake duties as Visiting Surgeon.

In December the Ministry of Health agreed that a new sanitary annexe to A Block was essential, and the necessary authorisation under Defence Regulation 56A, was issued for the carrying out of this work.

(a) In-Patients.

1.	Total number of admissions					
	(including infants born in Hospital)	...	...	...	...	8,919
2.	Number of women confined in Hospital	...	...	...	...	2,212
3.	Number of live births ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,149
4.	Number of still births ... ..	...	...	...	...	87
5.	Number of deaths among Newly-born (i.e., under four weeks of age)*	...	...	...	...	48
6.	Total number of deaths of children under one year (including those given under 5)	...	...	...	...	107
7.	Number of Maternal Deaths among women admitted to hospital for confinement	...	...	...	...	5
8.	Total number of deaths	...	...	...	...	623
9.	Total number of Discharges (including infants born in Hospital)	...	...	...	...	8,592
10.	Duration of stay of Patients included in 8 and 9 above:— Number of cases whose total stay was for the following periods—					
	(a) under four weeks	...	...	...	...	8,483
	(b) four weeks and under thirteen weeks	...	...	...	...	616
	(c) thirteen weeks or more	...	...	...	...	116
11.	Number of beds occupied (excluding cots in maternity wards):—					
	(a) average during the year	...	...	...	...	418
	(b) highest, 488 on 25-2-43 and 11-3-43					
	(c) lowest, 336 on 4-9-43					
12.	Number of Surgical Operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations)	...	...	...	...	1,966
13.	Number of abdominal sections	...	...	...	...	755

* This figure only relates to children born in the hospital.

(b) Consultative Clinic

Patients seen	1,413
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(c) Ante-Natal Clinic.

Number of Sessions held	520
Attendances	13,285
New cases attending	1,845

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Child Welfare Centre is adjacent to the Town Hall. There are six Branch Centres in widely separated parts of the town. In September arrangements were made for the use of Collett Street First Aid Post as a Branch Centre for the Watersheddings area, in lieu of St. Ambrose Church premises. This made a total number of five First Aid Posts being used for this purpose.

Dr. N. Wilkes resigned her position as Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare and ceased duty at the end of June. It was not possible to fill this vacancy; the work had to be strictly curtailed and some of the sessions were undertaken by Dr. E. Circuitt, Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.

In September, Mrs. M. Sharples was appointed to the position of Superintendent Health Visitor and Superintendent School Nurse. Mrs. M. E. Cummins took over the duties in connection with the supervision of the Wartime Nurseries, and those of Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor.

Attendances at the Central Welfare Clinic during 1943.

Number of individual cases who attended, and who at the end of the year were:—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	280
1—5 years	...	...	...	...	...	102
					—	382

Number of attendances (mother and baby count as one):—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	1,235
1—5 years	...	...	...	...	...	251
					—	1,486

Total number of new cases attending:—

Under 1 year	244
1—5 years	20
					—	264

Number of sessions held	153
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Average attendance per session	10
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Attendances at the Branch Centres During 1943.

Centre	Sessions	New Cases	Individual		Average Attendance	Total Attendances
			Cases Under 1 year	Attending 1—5 years		
Hollinwood	51	160	133	163	57	2,873
Brunswick	51	120	115	120	46	2,371
St. Barnabas ...	52	157	233	79	56	2,798
Scottfield	51	142	171	114	38	1,921
St. Ambrose ...	51	140	119	191	46	2,369
Hope, Abbeyhills	51	149	176	101	49	2,493
TOTALS ...	307	868	947	768	292	14,825

Provision of Vitamin Preparations.

In January the arrangements for the supply of Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices were extended to include expectant mothers. Arrangements were made for these preparations to be available at the Boundary Park General Hospital for the convenience of expectant mothers attending the ante-natal clinic.

Births.

During the year 1,949 notifications of birth were received relating to 1,887 live births and 62 stillbirths. In addition there were 1,081 notifications received which were transferred to other authorities concerned

The 1,949 live and stillbirths were notified by:—

Midwives ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,872
Doctors ...	...	...	...	...	...	77

Transferred Births.

The names and addresses of 1,132 infants and young children who left the Borough (including children born in Oldham hospitals, whose home addresses were outside the Borough), were notified to the Medical Officers of Health of the areas of their destination, and 33 were notified as coming to live in the Borough.

Health Visiting.

Details of visits made by Health Visitors:—

Visits to newly-born infants ...	...	...	...	...	1,701
Re-visits—Infants under 12 months	...	...	...	...	3,233
Infants 1—5 years	...	...	...	...	6,375
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	21
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	225
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	172
Infantile Deaths ...	...	...	...	...	124
Ante-Natal Cases ...	...	...	...	...	107
Miscellaneous Visits ...	...	...	...	...	298

Infant Life Protection.

The supervision of infants under the age of nine years, received for maintenance and reward, is carried out by Health Visitors. These children are visited frequently and are also medically examined at the Infant Welfare Centres. The following are the figures for 1943:—

Number of Foster Parents on the Register—

(a) at the beginning of the year	15
(b) at the end of the year	11

Number of Children on the Register—

(a) at the beginning of the year	12
(b) at the end of the year	11
(c) who died during the year	—

New cases during the year	—
----------------------------------	---

Removed from the Register during the year:—	1
---	---

Returned to Parents	—
Over 9 years	—
Adopted by Foster Parents	—
Removed from the District	1
Transferred to Homes or Hostels	—

The Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

In March Ministry of Health Circular 2790 was received and drew attention that an Order in Council had been made appointing 1st June, 1943, as the date on which the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, would come into operation.

Evidence had accumulated showing the special need for the provisions of the Act in war-time, and in spite of the additional work which would be imposed upon the responsible authorities, the operation of the Act could no longer be delayed.

Under the provisions of the Act, no body of persons, other than a Registered Adoption Society or a Local Authority, may arrange Adoptions. Adoption Societies are required to be registered by the Council of the County or County Borough of the area in which their administrative centre is situated. Regulations have been made controlling their activities, and their books and accounts are subject to inspection by the Council.

Persons participating in arrangements for adoption (not being the parent or guardian or the person in whose care and possession the child is placed) are required to give notice to the welfare authority of the arrangements made, unless an adoption order has been made upon the application of the person who is to have the care and possession of the child.

The adopter is required to notify any change of address, or the death of an adopted child.

In September the Oldham Council of Social Welfare made official application for registration as an Adoption Society under Section II of the above Act. This application was granted.

Care of Illegitimate Children.

In October Ministry of Health Circular 2866 asked Welfare Authorities to give earnest consideration to problems arising under war-time conditions with regard to illegitimate children. The Oldham Council for Moral Welfare Work employs a full-time worker with whom the Department co-operates and the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee make an annual grant to the funds of this Council.

Enquiries have shown that mothers are anxious to keep their babies and care for them themselves. In the case of single girls they often receive help from parents or grand-parents.

A large number of mothers are working, and the child is cared for during the day either by relatives or in a Day Nursery. It cannot be said that there is any real demand for hostel accommodation as Oldham is not faced with the same problem as a large city where a number of single girls seek work.

Miss Brislee of the Oldham Council for Moral Welfare is doing excellent work for these mothers, many of whom obtain affiliation orders.

WAR-TIME NURSERIES.

In order to satisfy the increasing demand for nursery accommodation an additional nursery was provided in the grounds of the Blue Coat School. The official opening of this Nursery which is known as the "Horsedge Nursery", took place in August, and provided accommodation for 50 children aged 0 — 5 years. The total number of Wartime Nurseries in the Borough is now 9 with accommodation for 417 children.

The demand for resident accommodation continued to increase, and arrangements were made during the year for 18 resident children to be accommodated at the Thornycroft Nursery.

The Ministry of Health have intimated that at this stage of the War, other additional Nurseries will only be approved in exceptional circumstances, and it is unlikely that any further Nurseries will be provided.

Municipal Midwifery Service.

At the beginning of the year 12 Midwives, including 2 practising under the Emergency Powers Defence Act, 1939, were employed by the Council. At the end of the year the number employed was 8, none of whom were practising under the Emergency Powers Defence Act, 1939.

In January, arrangements were made for 68, Werneth Hall Road to be taken over and equipped as a Hostel for our Municipal Midwives. These premises accommodate 4 midwives and will help to overcome the housing difficulties which have been experienced in recent years..

In May, the City of Manchester and Saint Mary's District Midwifery Association requested that this Authority should provide facilities for pupil midwives to reside with one or more of the Municipal Midwives of this Authority, in order to obtain the district training prescribed in Part II of the Course. It was appreciated that these arrangements would be of mutual benefit and the proposal was agreed. This arrangement allows for one or more of the pupil midwives to reside at the Midwives Hostel to work along with the Midwives resident there.

Miss M. Fensom the Supervisor of the Midwives tendered her resignation in April and was succeeded by Miss F. V. Curtis.

Miss E. Lawson who undertook the duties of Deputy Supervisor resigned from this position in January and was succeeded by Miss A. O'Keefe.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Municipal Midwives during the year:—

Confinements.

Number of cases booked	542
Number of confinements attended	435

Visits.

Ante-Natal	2,885
During lying-in period	7,929
Post Natal	286

Fees.

Patients paying full fee	386
Patients paying reduced fee	43
Necessitous cases (no fee)	6

Amount of fees received, £760.

During the year 1,949 live and stillbirths were notified; of these 1,388 (71.22%) were institutional, and 561 (28.78%) domiciliary. Of the latter, 435 (77.34%) were attended by Municipal Midwives and the remaining 126 (22.66%) by Midwives in private practice.

Supervision of Midwives.

During the year 62 Midwives notified their intention to practise, compared with 58 in 1942. Of these, 14 were Municipal Midwives; 5 Midwives in private practice, 37 Midwives in the Boundary Park General Hospital and 6 Midwives in the Woodfield Nursing Home.

The following notifications were received from Midwives practising in the Borough:—

Stillbirths	10
Deaths	2
Artificial Feeding	60
Liability to be a source of infection	23

There were 273 Medical Aid Forms sent in by Midwives, as compared with 355 for 1942. The conditions for which medical aid was sought were as follows:—

Conditions in Mother.

Ante-partum Haemorrhage ...	6
Other Ante-Natal Conditions	24
Delayed Labour	30
Occipito-Posterior	1
Other Malpresentations ...	11
Adherent Placenta	3
Ruptured Perineum	66
Post-Partum Haemorrhage ...	3
Pyrexia	16
Other Conditions	25

Total ... 185

Conditions in Child.

Feebleness or Premature ...	9
Discharging Eyes	52
Other Conditions	27

Total ... 88

The total cost of these claims was £287 19s. 2d. of which £132 16s. was recovered from the patients.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

During the year 34 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified. The following are the results of these cases:—

Vision unimpaired ...	...	...	...	...	31
Still under treatment ...	...	...	...	...	—
Died ...	...	...	...	...	—
Removed from District ...	...	...	...	...	3

Puerperal Pyrexia.

The following cases of Pyrexia were notified during the year:—

Boundary Park General Hospital ...	...	...	...	13
Oldham Royal Infirmary ...	...	...	...	1
Woodfield Nursing Home ...	...	...	...	3
Private Practitioners ...	...	...	...	1

Emergency Maternity Unit.

The arrangements for the calling out of the Emergency Maternity Unit from the Boundary Park General Hospital remained the same as in 1942.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

The Scheme as outlined in the Report for 1941 was continued throughout the year:—

Summary of Treatment Given During 1943.

Patients treated ...	...	...	...	...	55
Attendances of patients ...	...	...	...	...	344
Extractions ...	...	...	...	...	503
Fillings ...	...	...	...	...	44
General anæsthetics given ...	...	...	...	...	45
Other operations ...	...	...	...	...	218
Dentures provided ...	...	...	...	...	45

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During the year there were 11 deaths attributed to or associated with childbirth. Of these, 7 were true maternal deaths, giving a maternal mortality rate of 3.67 per thousand live and stillbirths. Excluding the one abortion death the rate is 3.14. The cause of death in each case was as follows:—

“A”—Deaths due to Sepsis: 2.

Case No. 1. Age 23.

1. (a) Toxaemia.
- (b) Peritonitis.
- (c) Incomplete abortion.

Case No. 2. Age 30.

1. (a) Toxic Myocarditis.
- (b) Septicaemia.
- (c) Miscarriage (29 weeks).

“B”—Deaths Due to other Puerperal Causes: 5.

Case No. 3. Age 35.

1. (a) Myocardial Failure.
- (b) Ante-partum Haemorrhage.
- (c) Placenta Praevia.

Case No. 4. Age 37.

1. (a) Obstetric Shock.
- (b) Manual Removal of Placenta.

Case No. 5. Age 39.

1. (a) Myocardial Failure.
- (b) Myocardial Degeneration.
- (c) Pregnancy.
2. Caesarean Section

Case No. 6. Age 23.

Haemorrhage and Peritonitis due to sloughing and perforation of uterus following manual removal of placenta.

Case No. 7. Age 19.

1. (a) Post-partum Eclampsia.

“C”—Deaths Associated with Pregnancy: 4.

Case No. 8. Age 36.

Cardiac muscle failure following abortion and rupture of the uterus and the use of an instrument by deceased herself whilst the balance of her mind was disturbed.

Case No. 9. Age 34.

1. (a) Cardiac muscle failure.
- (b) Myocarditis.
2. Childbirth.

Case No. 10. Age 36.

1. (a) Congestive Cardiac failure.
- (b) Rheumatic condition.
2. Pregnancy.

Case No. 11. Age 35.

1. (a) Cardiac failure Coma.
- (b) Pneumonia.
- (c) Valvular Heart Disease (Mitral Stenosis of the Heart)—died of Malignant Pneumonia after incomplete abortion.

THE ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

The Orthopædic Clinic provides treatment for cases from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, the School Medical Department, the Tuberculosis Dispensary and from Private Practitioners. During the year 16,395 attendances were made by patients.

The following table shows the defects from which the cases examined by the Orthopædic Surgeon were suffering, and the results of treatment:

Defects	Discharged			Still Attending		Discontinued		TOTAL
	Cured	Impd.	I.S.Q.	Impd.	I.S.Q.	Impd.	I.S.Q.	
Postural Defects	1	1	...	9	3	1	...	15
Little's Disease ... ..	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	4
Spastic Paralysis ... ..	...	...	...	9	2	4	3	18
Infantile Paralysis ... ..	...	...	...	7	5	3	2	17
Torticollis	4	...	...	4	...	3	...	11
Congenital Deformity ... ..	...	...	...	12	4	4	1	21
Congenital Talipes	2	...	...	7	2	2	...	13
Injuries (including Fractures) ...	6	...	...	7	2	6	7	28
Pes Planus	9	...	...	24	...	27	14	74
Pes Planus with Knock-Knee ...	10	...	...	8	2	13	10	43
Pes Cavus ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Hallux Valgus	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	5
Metatarsalgia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	9	2	...	13	2	10	13	49
Osteomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Rheumatoid Arthritis ... ..	...	...	...	8	2	2	3	15
Amputations ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Tuberculosis Bones and Joints ...	1	...	...	44	8	1	1	55
Other conditions	3	4	1	4	2	5	3	22
Totals ...	47	7	1	161	39	83	58	396

These cases were referred as follows:—

School Medical Department	116
Infant Welfare Department	157
Private Practitioners	63
Tuberculosis Dispensary... ..	60
Total	396

WATER SUPPLY.

The Waterworks Engineer and Manager (Mr. C. Busfield) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

During the past year a constant supply of water of a high standard of purity has been maintained to all premises within the Corporation's area of supply, reserves of water have been well maintained and no restrictions of any kind relating to the use of water have been imposed.

The supply to all dwelling houses is taken directly to the houses and no supplies are provided by standpipes.

All water supplied is sterilised by means of ammonia and chlorine.

The pH value of the water supplied from the Piethorne and Hanging Lees sources, all of which is unfiltered, has varied during the year between 6.0 to 7. Filtered water is supplied from the Castleshaw and Readycon Dean sources, the pH value of which has varied between 7.5 to 9. No cases of contamination by lead of the water supplied have been notified.

Samples from each of the four sources of supply are submitted for chemical analysis at three-monthly intervals. During the year 1943, eleven samples from each source, taken at monthly intervals, were submitted for bacteriological examination, and in every case excepting one sample from the Hanging Lees source, B Coli was reported to be absent from 100 c.cs. In the single case referred to B, Coli (Atypical) was found, in 100 c.cs. but not in 10 c.cs. no intermediate count being taken.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

I am indebted to Mr. J. Taylor, the Sewage Works Manager, for the following information:—

The system of sewage treatment has not been altered. Final Effluents leaving the purification plant maintained a fairly satisfactory standard throughout, taking into consideration the difficulties of operation. The Lancashire Rivers Board Inspector took several samples, all of which were classed as satisfactory. The average gas yield was about 85,000 cubic feet per day. The total amount of sewage received for treatment during the year was 2,246,000,000 gallons, equal to an average daily flow of 6,154,000 gallons. The total amount of sludge deposited in the tanks was approximately 41,000 tons, equal to 18.2 tons per million gallons. Sludge cake removed from the works was 4,200 tons.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Director of Public Cleansing (Mr. A. Millward) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

House and Trade Refuse Collection.

Number of Ashbins emptied	...	...	...	...	2,082,096
„ Sanitary Pails emptied	...	...	...	...	52,671
„ Collections of Butchers' offal	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ Fish offal	...	...	...	...	18,096
„ Loads of excreta collected	...	...	...	...	572
„ „ Butchers' offal collected	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ Fish offal collected	...	...	...	...	351
„ Tons of Ashes to Refuse Disposal Works	...	...	...	...	10,427
„ „ „ Corporation Tips	...	...	...	...	13,320
„ „ Clinker removed from Refuse Disposal Works	...	...	...	...	5,502
„ „ Baled tins sold	...	...	...	...	644
„ „ Mortar sold	...	...	...	...	338

Waste Water Closets and Latrines.

Blockages cleared (W.W.C.'s)	...	...	...	...	3,955
Blockages cleared (Latrines)	...	...	...	...	10
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	269
Drains found blocked, requiring excavating	...	...	...	...	278
Tippers found not working and re-adjusted	...	...	...	...	76
Tippers, fittings, etc., found broken	...	...	...	...	1,204
New Tippers, fittings, etc., fixed	...	...	...	...	1,147
Visits paid flushing latrines	...	...	...	...	10,920

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1943. During the year difficulty was experienced in the carrying out of essential repair work under notices served by the department, owing to the conditions prevailing, in connection with the shortage of labour and building materials etc., and greater leniency was extended towards the owners of properties in these circumstances. Progress was made in our efforts to eliminate the unsatisfactory common lodging houses in the Borough. It was found necessary to take action with regard to unsatisfactory milk supplies, which resulted in an improvement before the end of the year.

In September, under the auspices of the Ministry of Food, the local food decontamination squads gave a successful demonstration on the Oldham Athletic Football ground, of the methods of food decontamination, to a large audience consisting of officers from the North West Area.

I wish to tender to yourself and members of the staff my sincere thanks for the willing help and co-operation I have received during the year.

Yours respectfully,

HAROLD V. CASS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Summary of Work carried out by Sanitary Inspectors.

During the year 8,188 visits and 2,621 re-visits were made by Sanitary Inspectors in connection with inspections under the various Acts.

Summary of Action taken and Work carried out:—

Number of complaints received	1,442
Referred to other Departments	807
Letters to Owners, etc.	906
Cases reported to Committee	1,350
Cases taken in Court	4

Disrepair.

Roofs repaired or renewed	278
Walls and Chimneys repaired or rebuilt	104
Wall plaster repaired or renewed	104
Ceiling plaster repaired or renewed	86
Floors repaired or relaid	34
Windows repaired	54
Extra Lighting provided	2
Ventilation provided or improved	38
Ranges or Fireplaces repaired, re-set or renewed	52
Staircases repaired or renewed	8
Handrails provided or repaired	2
Doors repaired	28
Washing accommodation provided or repaired	3
Rooms, cleansed or redecorated	23
Contents of rooms cleansed or destroyed	13
Dampness remedied Rising	5
Penetrating	6
Outbuildings repaired	6
Courts, Yards and Passages' paved or repaved... ..	11
Cleansed... ..	1

Sanitary Defects.

Drainage.....Cleansed	228
Repaired or altered	116
Reconstructed	41
Provided	2
Public Sewers.....Cleansed	5
Repaired or altered	7
Reconstructed	5
Eaves Gutters repaired or renewed, cleansed	159
Rain Water Pipes repaired or renewed	63
Disconnected	6
Sinks renewed or provided	17
Sink Waste Pipes repaired or renewed	63

Water Closets.....	Provided ...	...	...	...	...	8
	Repaired ...	...	...	...	...	56
	Cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	29
Waste Water Closets	Repaired ...	...	...	...	...	86
	Cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	25
Closets converted to Water Closets (or abolished)—						
	Latrine ...	...	...	...	...	3
	Waste Water ...	...	...	...	...	25
Other Closets.....	Repaired ...	...	...	...	...	15
Soil Pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water supply provided or improved	...	...	...	...	...	21

Miscellaneous.

Dustbins repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	334
Nuisances Abated.....	Accumulations	...	...	...	...	12

Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 83).

There were two prosecutions instituted under this Section; in one a fine of £3 was imposed, and in the other the defendant was warned and the case adjourned for a month to enable him to cleanse his premises, which had the desired effect.

Common Lodging Houses.

At the end of 1942 the registration of certain premises as Common Lodging Houses was under consideration. At the beginning of the year there were 16 premises used for this purpose, 2 of which were closed voluntarily after negotiations had taken place. There were 14 applications for registration, 7 of which were refused, and of these one was closed, and in another an appeal was lodged against the refusal of registration, but this was dismissed. At the end of the year there were 7 premises registered as Common Lodging Houses.

Offensive Trades.

Offensive trades carried on in the Borough, numbering 20 in all, are as follows:—

Tripe Boilers...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	...	8
Gut Scrapers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hide and Skin Dépôt	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chemical Works	...	...	...	...	...	2

There were 35 visits paid to these premises and 2 notices served in respect of defects.

Bakehouses.

During the year 3 new premises were registered, and 4 were discontinued, leaving 254 on the register at the end of 1943. Two Basement Bakehouses continued to be used throughout the year, the registration of one expires in 1944; the other is to be discontinued as a bakehouse immediately satisfactory negotiations for new premises are completed. During the year 107 visits were made to Bakehouses.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

The following inspections were made:—

(a) Factories with mechanical power ...	...	85
(b) Factories without mechanical power ...	...	49

In the case of the factories under (a) it was necessary to serve 4 notices.

The following defects were found and remedied. No cases were referred to H.M. Inspector and no prosecutions were instituted:—

Sanitary Conveniences:—

Insufficient ...	...	...	...	...	1
Unsuitable or defective ...	...	...	...	...	1
Other offences ...	...	...	...	...	2

Registered Workshops. During the year 565 Factories and Workshops—466 mechanical and 119 non-mechanical were on the Register.

Outworkers. One list relating to 1 outworker was received during the year. The premises were found to be satisfactory.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

During the year an inspection was made of all premises of Flock Manufacturers and Dealers within the Borough, together with the premises of Upholsterers where rag flocks are likely to be used. No rag flock was being used at the time of the inspection.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The arrangements as set out in the 1942 Report in connection with our responsibilities under this Act, were continued. There were 407 complaints received; in 61 of these cases it was found that the rat infestation was due to defective drainage.

HOUSING.

Slum Clearance. The re-housing of persons affected by pre-war slum clearance schemes was continued. At the beginning of the year 9 families were awaiting re-housing; 2 of these moved into Corporation houses and 4 found their own accommodation. At the end of the year 3 families were still to be re-housed.

The demolition of properties affected by outstanding clearance orders was continued and 124 houses in clearance areas and 4 individual unfit houses were demolished by such action; no owners elected to demolish their properties.

Individual Unfit Houses. It was found necessary to make demolition orders in respect of 12 houses involving the displacement of 9 families (44 persons). at the end of the year 2 families (9 persons) had moved into Corporation houses.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. The following figures show the number of houses inspected and the number disinfested:—

	Corporation.	Others.
Houses inspected	398	155
Disinfested by H.C.N. ..	44	17
Disinfested by liquid insecticide	12	141

DISINFECTION.

The arrangements for disinfection were the same as in previous years. During the year 110,605 articles were disinfested and 1,977 destroyed. The total number of houses disinfested was 1,229 and 5,602 rooms.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The General Superintendent of Baths (Mr. T. Beattie) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

All the Branch Baths are fitted with Chlorine Gas Filtration Plants, and at the Central Baths the old Filtration Plant is awaiting replacement.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

MILK SUPPLY.

Milk Samples. During the year 206 samples of milk were reported upon for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. Of these 111 were from farms within the Borough, 6 (5.40%) of which contained Tubercle Bacilli. The remaining 95 were from milk produced outside the Borough, of these 12 (12.63%) contained Tubercle Bacilli.

There were eight animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, following investigation in respect of the above positive samples.

There were 128 samples of raw, heat treated and sterilised milk examined, and of these only 15 had a Bacterial Count of under 200,000 and the absence of B. Coli. Some of the remaining samples showed gross contamination. All this milk was produced outside the Borough and the Authorities concerned were notified and an improvement effected.

Milk Purveyors. The following figures have been compiled from the register:—

Milk Shops on Register at January 1st, 1943 ...	503
Discontinued during the year	—
Registered during the year	6
Milk Shops on Register at December, 31, 1943	509

At the end of the year there were 24 Oldham farmers on the Register and 137 farmers and dairymen residing outside the Borough.

Dairies and Cowsheds. There were 24 farms in the Borough, comprising 60 cowsheds, housing approximately 510 cows.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-1941. The following licences were issued:—

- 1 Supplementary licence to sell milk as "Tuberculin Tested."
- 4 Licences to produce and sell milk as "Accredited".
- 4 Supplementary licences to sell milk as "Accredited."
- 1 Supplementary licence to sell milk as "Pasteurised."
- 1 Licence in respect of Pasteurising Establishments.

During the year 36 samples of designated milk were submitted for examination—22 Pasteurised Milk for Bacterial Count and B. Coli, and 14 Accredited Milk for Methylene Blue Reduction Test and B. Coli; of these 9 Pasteurised and 3 Accredited failed to conform with the standard of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936—1941.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 (Article 28). Proceedings were instituted against a dairyman for failing to cleanse his milk churns before returning them to the producer; a fine of £2 was imposed.

MEAT INSPECTION.

During the year the Ministry of Food continued the use of one slaughterhouse.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)...	3095	1410	3693	30710	145
Number inspected	3095	1410	3693	30710	145
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:					
Whole Carcases con- demned	1	10	16	11	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	200	403	4	390	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.494	29.290	0.541	1.305	12.413
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:					
Whole Carcases con- demned	2	36	9	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	245	812	16	—	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.980	60.141	0.676	—	12.413

There is still a further increase in the percentage of cows affected with Tuberculosis as the following figures shew:—

	Cow Carcases Examined	Percentage affected with Tuberculosis
1940	4702	25.49
1941	1735	41.61
1942	1517	53.13
1943	1410	60.14

The total weight of meat and offal destroyed was—for tuberculosis, 50,047 lbs; for diseases other than tuberculosis, 15,264 lbs.

Summary of Diseased and Unsound Food destroyed during 1943.

Cattle	(49 whole carcasses)	...	...	25,009 lbs.
Sheep	(11 „ „ )	...	...	555 lbs.
Pigs	(6 „ „ )	...	...	949 lbs.
Calves	(25 „ „ )	...	...	1,007 lbs.
Parts of Carcasses and Offal				
	(2,100 Cattle, Sheep, Pigs and Calves)			37,791 lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	13,056 lbs.
Preserved Foods	...	...	...	13,587 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	42 lbs.
Eggs	...	...	...	4 lbs.
Rabbits	...	...	...	224 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	416 lbs.
Frozen Meat and Tripe	...	...	...	875 lbs.
Butter, Cheese	...	...	...	110 lbs.
Flour, Oats, etc.	...	...	...	6,321 lbs.
Total				99,946 lbs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 Section 9 (1). One butcher was fined during the year for being in possession of meat intended, but not fit, for human consumption.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. The Department granted 1 licence and 14 renewal licences during the year.

Horseflesh. One shop remains open in the Borough for the sale of horseflesh. Arrangements for slaughtering and inspection continued as in 1942.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The total number of samples analysed during 1943 was 291, compared with 315 for 1942.

Number of Samples Purchased for Analysis.

Articles	Number of Samples of each article examined			Number of Samples of each Article regarded as adulterated, below standard, or otherwise not complying with prescribed requirements		
	Formally taken	In-formally taken	Total	Formally taken	In-formally taken	Total
Milk	232	2	234	7	1	8
Whisky	6	—	6	2	—	2
Gin	1	—	1	—	—	—
Tincture of Iodine	—	2	2	—	—	—
Butter	4	—	4	—	—	—
Margarine	5	—	5	—	—	—
Coffee	—	2	2	—	—	—
Seidlitz Powder ...	—	4	4	—	—	—
Fruit Cordial	—	4	4	—	3	3
Zinc Ointment	—	3	3	—	—	—
Boracic Ointment...	—	3	3	—	—	—
Pepper	—	3	3	—	—	—
Pearl Barley	—	2	2	—	—	—
Ginger	—	2	2	—	—	—
Self Raising Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Oatmeal	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rice	—	1	1	—	—	—
Nutmeg	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cinnamon	—	1	1	—	—	—
Arrowroot	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dried Egg	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ground Mace	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lard	1	—	1	—	—	—
Malt & Cod Liver Oil ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gregory Powder ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Epsom Salts	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream of Tartar ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Baking Powder ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemon Sponge Mixture ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals	250	41	291	9	4	13

Results of Action taken with regard to Samples Not Genuine.

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
19	Milk	33% Fat Deficiency	Letter of warning.
36	Milk	10% Fat Deficiency	Letter of warning.
51	Milk	3% added water	No action taken.
52	Milk	5% added water	No action taken.
68	Milk	5.8% added water	Fined £5 and Analyst fees.
90	Milk	31.3% fat deficiency	Fined £1 and Analyst fees.
142	Milk	26.3% fat deficiency	Fined £2 and Analyst fees.
246	Whisky	13.9% added water	Fined £5 and Analyst fees.
247	Whisky	16.6% added water	Fined £3 and Analyst fees.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the Attack Rate and Death Rate.

Disease	Attack Rate per 1,000 of the Population		Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population		Death Rate per 1,000 Cases
	England & Wales	Oldham	England & Wales	Oldham	
Small Pox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria...	0.88	1.67	0.03	0.04	26.59
Erysipelas ...	0.31	0.35	—	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	3.01	3.86	0.00	0.00	0.00
Enteric Fever ...	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	11.68*	9.44*	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia..	1.34	1.32	—	0.24	182.43
Measles ...	9.88	4.63	0.02	0.009	1.92
Whooping Cough ...	2.54	4.53	0.03	0.06	13.75
Influenza ...	—	—	0.37	0.37	—

*Rates per 1,000 total births (i.e., live and still).

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year there were 188 cases notified compared with 92 in 1942. There were five deaths registered from this disease compared with none in the previous year, these were all extremely severe cases, 3 died within two weeks of admission, none had been immunised.

Of the 188 cases notified, 44 were under school age, 98 were in attendance at school and 46 over school age. These cases were classified clinically as follows:—

Severe	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Moderate	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Mild ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Nasal	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Of the total cases 39 had been immunised.

This disease was more prevalent than in previous years. There were no localised epidemics to account for this increased incidence. The cases occurring in children attending school were distributed among 32 schools, 10 of them occurred at one school, but these appeared sporadically throughout the year and were for the most part unconnected.

Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin. This is supplied free to General Practitioners and can be obtained at the Public Health Office during the day or at the Central Police Station at other times.

Diphtheria Immunisation. The Campaign for obtaining parents consent to immunisation was vigorously continued. The following figures indicate the number of children immunised during the year, and the percentage of immunised children in the Borough at the end of the year.

	Age 0—4 (inclusive)	Age 5—15 (inclusive)
Number of children completing the full course of immunisation ...	942	679
Total immunised at 31st December ...	3,730	10,853
Percentages of immunised children at 31st December ...	53.28%	88.75%

SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases notified was 434, compared with 337 in 1942. Of these 302 were removed to hospital. No deaths were recorded from this disease.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 39 cases notified, compared with 51 in 1942. of these 7 were removed to hospital. No deaths occurred from this disease. Of the 39 cases notified, 23 occurred in persons forty-five years of age and over.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

During the year 17 notifications were received and 2 deaths were registered as due to this disease.

POLIOMYELITIS.

No cases were notified during the year.

EPIDEMIC ENCEPHALITIS (Encephalitis Lethargica).

No cases were notified, but 1 death of a case notified previously was registered as due to this disease.

PNEUMONIA (ACUTE PRIMARY AND INFLUENZAL).

There were 148 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia and 51 cases of Influenzal Pneumonia notified. The deaths from all forms of Pneumonia numbered 88.

INFLUENZA.

In November and December there was an epidemic of Influenza which was generally mild in character, but widespread in its effects. During the epidemic 52 notifications of Pneumonia (all forms) were received, and 22 Influenza deaths were registered.

During the year 42 deaths were attributed to this disease, compared with 18 for 1942.

MEASLES.

The number of cases notified was 520, compared with 1,879 for 1942. Of these, 25 were removed to hospital, and 1 death was registered as due to this disease.

WHOOPING COUGH,

The number of cases notified was 509, compared with 120 for 1942. Of these 23 were removed to hospital and 7 deaths were registered as due to this disease.

WHOOPING COUGH PROTECTION.

The arrangements as set out in the Report for 1942 were continued. Early in the year the strength of the material used and the dosage was under review and in April we adopted the dosage recommended by the Whooping Cough Sub-Committee of the Ministry of Health, namely two injections of 1 c.c. Pertussis Vaccine, 20,000 million organisms per c.c. the second to be given after an interval of one month. This protection was confined to children under two years of age and in a number of cases the inoculations were combined with Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

DYSENTERY,

One case of Sonné Dysentery was notified during the year, a child of 2 years.

OTHER DISEASES,

No cases of Smallpox, Anthrax, Malaria or Undulant fever were brought to the notice of the Department during the year.

Table showing the Number of Cases of Certain Diseases notified, and the Deaths registered from these Diseases
During the Several Months of the Year.

MONTHS	Measles		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Enteric Fever		Puerperal Pyrexia		Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis		Acute Poliomyelitis		Whooping Cough		Erysipelas		Acute Primary Pneumonia		Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
January.	25	—	33	—	22	1	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	64	3	6	—	25	3	4	—
February	23	—	35	—	25	2	—	—	2	—	4	—	—	—	69	1	3	—	18	2	4	1
March	69	—	34	—	19	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	74	1	3	—	15	5	1	1
April	126	—	32	—	25	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	97	—	1	—	20	3	2	—
May	101	—	35	—	17	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	85	2	4	—	7	2	—	—
June	102	—	15	—	20	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	45	—	3	—	6	1	—	—
July	37	1	37	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	26	—	1	—	4	1	—	—
August	5	—	39	—	5	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	19	—	3	—	7	3	—	—
September	11	—	33	—	7	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	3	—	7	2	1	—
October	5	—	55	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	4	—	7	—	3	—
November	3	—	46	—	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	7	—	3	—	16	3	3	1
December	13	—	40	—	11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	—	16	2	33	4
TOTALS	520	1	434	—	188	5	—	—	18	—	17	2	—	—	509	7	39	—	148	27	51	7

Smallpox—None. Epidemic Encephalitis (Encephalitis Lethargica)—1 Death.

TABLE SHOWING CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1943.

Notifiable Disease.	Notifications in Age Groups						Notifications in the Various Wards of the Borough												
	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	St. Mary's.	St. Peter's.	Werneth.	Westwood.	St. Paul's.	Coldhurst.	Hartford	Hollinwood	Clarksfield.	Mumps.	St. James'	Waterhead.
Smallpox	...	44	98	38	8	...	...	13	9	9	18	27	9	18	9	19	14	14	29
Cholera—Plague	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	3	8	7	1	5	1	1	1	4	1	3	4
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Group)	...	111	281	22	19	1	...	42	12	34	17	52	23	47	62	49	13	37	46
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	27	250	210	26	7	...	...	58	9	27	31	133	30	27	32	45	23	43	62
Whooping Cough	56	313	135	1	4	...	...	41	14	22	62	72	18	27	32	66	30	45	80
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	3	15	...	...	...	1	4	7	1	...	...	1	2	1	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	3	2	2	4	2	4	...	1	...	1	8	3	...	1	1	2	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	2	3	2	3	1	...	5	7	3	3
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	1	2	23	37	43	...	9	6	3	8	15	8	14	11	9	10	8	10
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	...	4	15	14	11	1	...	3	2	5	4	3	4	2	4	7	4	4	4
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	2	4	5	3	13	16	...	5	5	4	9	4	2	6	1	7	...	4	4
Acute Primary Pneumonia	7	23	16	15	30	41	16	18	13	8	12	12	5	9	5	12	15	23	16
Epidemic Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(Encephalitis Lethargica)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	128	753	765	149	161	121	38	196	329	126	180	329	103	153	158	228	118	185	259

WESTHULME HOSPITAL.

In January the Hospital accommodation was very severely taxed and the position became markedly worse during February. All the Wards including those in "B" and "D" Blocks were open and the additional work involved imposed a very heavy strain on all the staff of the Hospital. To relieve the pressure on the Hospital accommodation convalescent Scarlet Fever patients were transferred to the Medical Rest Centre, 61, Queens Road.

In June, "D" Block was officially opened by Alderman J. Bannon, J.P., Chairman of the Westhulme Hospital and Tuberculosis Sub-Committee. The building stands on the site of the Sanatorium Pavilion which was opened in 1914 and destroyed by enemy action on the 3rd December, 1940. It is a prefabricated cubicle block comprising two 2 bed wards and eight single bed wards, together with kitchen, sluice, etc. The provision of this additional accommodation has supplied a very urgent need and since the admission of patients commenced, the block has been used to full capacity.

Miss R. Rowell, Matron, accepted the duties of secretary to the Civil Nursing Reserve which had previously been undertaken by Miss A. M. Busley, former Matron. Miss C. Briggs was appointed Assistant Matron.

During the year 967 patients were treated, compared with 650 in 1942. On the 1st January, 1943, 61 patients were under treatment and 906 were admitted during 1943.

The admissions were made up as follows:—

Authority	Diph.	S. Fever.	Measles.	Erys. W.	Cough.	Other.	Total.
Oldham	223	308	23	10	27	21	612
Chadderton	11	89	—	1	3	2	106
Royton	7	36	—	—	3	2	48
Crompton & Shaw	6	8	—	—	1	—	15
Limehurst	2	2	—	—	—	1	5
Failsworth	5	47	—	—	—	8	60
Saddleworth... ..	9	35	—	1	1	1	47
Lees	3	5	—	—	—	—	8
Ashton-u-Lyne...	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Dukinfield	2	—	—	1	—	—	3
Totals	269	531	23	13	35	35	906

The 35 "Other Diseases" admissions were made up as follows:—

Chickenpox... ..	7	Pemphigus	1
Mumps	3	Rubella	7
Meningitis	13	Typhoid	2
Vincent's Angina	1	Dysentery	1

CANCER.

The facilities for diagnosis and treatment as outlined in the report for 1938 were continued during the year. In March arrangements were made for the Radium Clinic at the Oldham Royal Infirmary to be held weekly instead of fortnightly.

The following information has been submitted by the Superintendent and Secretary of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute:—

Referring Hospital	No. of Cases referred	No. Treated by Radiation and Surgical			No. not treated on account of unsuitability, advancement of disease, etc.	Follow-up visits made by new patients during 1943
		I.P.	O.P.	Total		
Oldham Royal Infirmary	174	61	60	121	53	342
Boundary Park General Hospital	11	7	—	7	4	18
Total	185	68	60	128	57	360

Total number of examinations made at the Oldham Clinic (including 360 follow-up attendances by 1943 cases).

Oldham Royal Infirmary	1,572
Boundary Park General Hospital	35

Number of visits paid by Medical Officer from the Holt Radium Institute to:—

Oldham Royal Infirmary	48
Boundary Park General Hospital	11

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer shows a reduction of 14 compared with 1942.

The figures for the last 5 years are as follows:—

1939	...	...	...	...	...	...	239
1940	...	...	...	...	...	...	217
1941	...	...	...	...	...	...	216
1942	...	...	...	...	...	...	236
1943	...	...	...	...	...	...	222

The following is an analysis of the age and sex distribution of all persons who were certified as dying from cancer during the year:—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
0—15	—	3	3
15—25	—	1	1
25—35	—	2	2
35—45	3	8	11
45—55	18	19	37
55—65	32	32	64
65—75	41	33	74
75—	17	13	30

Localisation of the Disease.

Buccal Cavity	{	Tongue	3
		Mouth	2
		Tonsil	1
		Pharynx	1
		Palate	1
		Fauces	1
Digestive Tract	{	Oesophagus	10
		Stomach	36
		Intestines	36
		(other than rectum and duodenum).	
		Rectum	21
		Liver and Biliary Passages	7
		Peritoneum	1
		Pancreas	9
Respiratory Organs	{	Larynx	6
		Lung	22
		Thymus	1
Male Genito-Urinary	{	Bladder	2
		Prostate	6
		Scrotum	4
Female Genital Organs	{	Uterus	14
		Ovary	7
		Vulva	3
Breast			11
Other and Unspecified			17

BOROUGH CORONER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR.

The following report has been supplied by Mr. J. L. Watson, the Borough Coroner:—

The deaths reported to the Coroner during the year 1943 were 282 (males 170, females 112). Of this total 46 were lunatics and mental defectives in institutions.

In 87 of the deaths reported the deaths were investigated by the Coroner but no inquests held.

There were 195 inquests held (117 on males and 78 on females). All the 195 inquests were held without a jury.

There were 110 post mortem examinations in 22 of which no inquest was held. The expenses of the inquests amounted to £488 12s. 8d.

The verdicts returned were:—

Suicides 16, (males 11, females 5); self induced abortion 1, accident or misadventure, 92 (males 52, females 40); natural causes, 78 (males 48, females 30); open verdicts 7 (males 5, females 2).

The ages of the 16 suicides were as follows:—

Under 21 years of age	...	...	...	...	3
Between 21 and 30 years of age	...	...	...	...	None
Between 30 and 40 years of age	...	...	...	...	3
Between 40 and 50 years of age	...	...	...	...	2
Between 50 and 60 years of age	...	...	...	...	3
60 years of age and over	...	...	...	...	5

The types of suicide included:—

Gassing	...	...	...	...	...	8
Drowning	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hanging	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cut throat	...	...	...	...	...	1
Taking Poison	...	...	...	...	...	1

There were no inquests on infants suffocated whilst in bed with their parents.

There were no inquests on newly born children.

In 1942 there were 265 deaths reported, 201 inquests were held and the expenses were £425 5s. 6d.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year consideration was given to the residential accommodation available for patients suffering from tuberculosis. In order to provide additional beds for the more advanced case of tuberculosis, authority was given for an increasing number of patients to be sent to outside sanatoria, especially where patients were suitable and willing to accept this type of accommodation.

The Committee also agreed that all cases of surgical tuberculosis which were suitable should be sent to a special Orthopaedic Hospital providing the necessary facilities for this type of case. During the year 13 cases were admitted to the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry.

The Dispensary. Attendances at the Dispensary, compared with the two previous years, are as follows:—

	1941	1942	1943
Insured persons	1945	2003	2177
Non-insured persons	258	239	243
Children	691	640	791
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2894	2882	3211
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The tuberculosis nurse paid 1,316 visits to the homes of tuberculous patients.

X-Ray Work. During the year 694 films were taken compared with 452 in 1942. Of 50 films loaned 33 were retained by the Department.

Pathological Examinations. During the year 966 specimens were examined. Of these 512 were positive and 454 negative.

Notifications. During the year 165 new cases were placed on the Register of Notifications (115 pulmonary, 50 non-pulmonary) compared with 138 (85 pulmonary, 53 non-pulmonary) for the previous year. The following table gives particulars of the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified in recent years together with the case rate per thousand of the population. Cases notified in other areas which later moved into the Borough have been excluded.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		All Forms	
	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate
1936	118	.90	43	.33	161	1.23
1937	114	.89	61	.48	175	1.37
1938	132	1.05	86	.68	218	1.73
1939	113	.91	62	.50	175	1.41
1940	92	.78	49	.41	141	1.19
1941	102	.87	30	.26	132	1.13
1942	85	.74	53	.47	138	1.21
1943	115	1.02	50	.45	165	1.47

Deaths. The number of deaths registered, 71 (62 pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary) gives a rate per thousand of the population of .63 (.55 pulmonary, .08 non-pulmonary) compared with 61 deaths (52 pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary) and a rate of .53 (.45 pulmonary, .08 non-pulmonary) for 1942.

The Dispensary Register. The total number of accepted cases on the Register on the 31st December, 1943, was 632. Of these 204 were cases in which tubercle bacilli had been found in the sputum at some period of the illness.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total		
	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total
No. on Register on 31/12/42 ...	209	159	368	122	118	240	331	277	608
Cases previously removed, returning during 1943	6	1	7	...	1	1	6	2	8
New cases placed on Register during 1943 (Trans. from Non. Pulm.)	71 1	35 1	106 2	18 ...	28 ...	46 ...	89 1	63 1	152' 2
Cases removed during 1943 (Trans. to pulmonary) ...	70 ...	31 ...	101 ...	15 1	20 1	35 2	85 1	51 1	136 2
No. on Register on 31/12/43 ...	217	165	382	124	126	250	341	291	632

During the year 136 patients were removed for the following reasons:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 1. Recovery ... | 25 | } or 29% of total removals. |
| 2. Removal out ... | 23 | |
| 3. Not desiring further treatment ... | 10 | |
| 4. Lost sight of ... | 3 | |
| 5. Diagnosis not confirmed ... | 3 | |
| 6. Death ... | 72 | or 53% of total removals. |

Of the 25 recovered cases 5 were pulmonary—4 or 80% being Tb. Minus and 1 Tb. Plus 2.

Of the 72 deaths 66 were pulmonary cases, classified as follows:—

Tb. Minus, 11 or 16.6%; Tb. Plus 1, 1 or 1.5%; Tb. Plus 2, 37 or 56.1%; Tb. Plus 3, 17 or 25.8%.

Cases not formally notified. These numbered 16, 9 being pulmonary and 7 non-pulmonary. Of these, 8 were live transfers from other areas; 6 were notified posthumously and 2 came to notice through the local Registrars returns.

The number of non notified deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis was 4, equal to 6.4% of the deaths from this form of the disease.

Non-pulmonary deaths not notified during life totalled 4, being 44.4% of the total of such deaths. Two were cases of meningitis, one mesenteric glands and one kidney and bladder.

The percentage of non-notified deaths from all forms of tuberculosis was 5.6.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases. During 1943, 108 new cases were placed on the Dispensary Register and were classified as follows:—

T.B. Minus (Sputum negative or absent) ...	48
T.B. Plus 1 (Early cases, sputum positive) ...	5
T.B. Plus 11 (Intermediate cases, sputum positive)	39
T.B. Plus 111 (Advanced cases, sputum positive)	16

In addition 5 other cases came to notice but were not placed on the Register.

Deaths. During the year 62 patients, compared with 52 in the previous year, died from pulmonary tuberculosis. This represents a death rate of .55 per thousand of the population.

In addition 9 pulmonary cases died from causes other than tuberculosis.

Of these 62 deaths, 11, or 18%, had been notified more than 5 years. A further 7, or 11%, had been notified 3 to 5 years, whilst 7 died 1 to 3 years after notification.

The remaining 37 deaths (60% of the total) occurred within one year of coming to notice and included 4 which escaped statutory notification, 3 being notified posthumously.

The following table shows the length of time between notification and death of the remaining 33:—

Under 1 week	...	...	...	...	...	3
1 to 4 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	9
1 to 2 months	...	...	...	...	...	7
2 to 3 months	...	...	...	...	...	5
3 to 6 months	...	...	...	...	...	4
6 to 9 months	...	...	...	...	...	3
9 to 12 months	...	...	...	...	...	2

Thus of the 62 patients dying during the year, 51, or 82%, died within 5 years of coming to notice.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases. The number of new cases placed on the Dispensary Register during the year was 46. Five other cases came to notice. These compare with 50 and 4 for 1942.

The localisation of the disease, compared with 1941 and 1942, was as follows:—

	1941	1942	1943
Bones and Joints ...	4	7	9
Abdomen ...	6	7	10
Meninges ...	1	6	5
Skin ...	1	—	2
Generalised ...	3	2	—
Other Organs ...	4	3	6
Peripheral Glands ...	12	29	19
	—	—	—
Totals ...	31	54	51
	—	—	—

Deaths. During the year there were 9 deaths; a similar number occurred in 1942. This represents a death rate of .08 per thousand of the population. In addition one case died of other causes.

Of these 9 deaths 6 occurred in our own hospitals, one in an outside institution and 2 at home, the localisation of the disease being:—

Meninges 5.

Abdomen 1.

Kidney 3.

The following is a summary of the new cases and deaths during the year :—

Age Periods					New Cases				Deaths			
					Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
					Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.
0 to 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
1 to 5	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...
5 to 10	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	1	...	...	...	...
10 to 15	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	3	...	...	...	1
15 to 20	...	...	...	...	5	4	3	2	...	4	...	1
20 to 25	...	...	...	...	8	8	1	8	6	6	...	3
25 to 35	...	...	...	...	10	10	1	8	7	2	...	...
35 to 45	...	...	...	...	13	5	2	4	9	3	1	2
45 to 55	...	...	...	...	14	4	...	1	6	2	...	...
55 to 65	...	...	...	...	20	3	...	1	12	2	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	1	2	1	...	...
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	75	38	20	31	42	20	2	7
1943					...		103		51		62	
1942					...		103		54		52	
1941					...		108		31		62	

The following list gives a summary of the principal occupations of new cases and deaths:—

					New Cases.		Deaths.	
					Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Cotton Operatives	...	...	...	...	19	7	7	1
Household duties	...	...	...	...	16	8	13	1
Iron Workers	...	...	...	...	5	1	2	—
School Children	...	...	...	...	1	17	—	1
Under school age	...	...	...	...	1	3	—	1
Labourers	...	...	...	...	14	—	8	—
No Occupation	...	...	...	...	8	2	3	—
Transport Workers	...	...	...	...	7	—	1	—
Clerks	...	...	...	...	3	2	1	—
Textile Machinery Workers, Fitters, Machinists	...	...	...	...	9	4	9	2
Shop Assistants	...	...	...	...	7	1	1	—
Other Occupations	...	...	...	...	23	6	17	2
Totals	...	...	...	...	113	51	62	9

Maintenance Allowances and Grants.

1. Memorandum 266/T.

The provisions of Memorandum 266/T, whereby assistance is granted to certain categories of persons undertaking approved treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis or suspected pulmonary tuberculosis, were put into operation on the 1st July, 1943. The scheme is administered by the Dispensary staff and payment is made weekly in cash by a member of the Borough Treasurer's Department.

The following summary gives particulars of the number of applicants and applications dealt with together with the amounts expended to the 29th December, 1943.

		Amounts expended.
Total number of applicants	62	
Total number of applications	66	£1,210 3. 3.

Maintenance Allowances.

Number of applicants	60	
Number of applications	62	£1,199 18. 9.

Discretionary Allowances.

Number of applicants	Nil.	Nil.
-----------------------------	------	------

Special Payments

Number of applicants		
in Maintenance Allowances	2	
in Discretionary Allowances	—	
Others	2	
Number of applications	4	£10 4. 6.

2. Local Scheme.

The introduction of the provisions of Memorandum 266/T, whilst providing a most welcome addition to the facilities available in the treatment of tuberculosis, occasioned a great deal of concern and dissatisfaction in consequence of their limitations. As is well known, representations were made to the Minister from all parts of the country for the extension of the scheme to include all cases of tuberculosis, irrespective of the site of the lesion or stage of the disease. It is equally well known that the Minister was unable to see his way to bring about such an extension.

In view of this and in order to overcome one of the chief difficulties in the administration of the Government Scheme, i.e., that of informing chronic pulmonary and all non-pulmonary cases of the reason for their ineligibility to receive assistance under the scheme or as to why such assistance, having been afforded for a period, would now have to cease, The Committee on the 12th August, 1943, introduced a local scheme of allowances and grants, the cost of which is borne by the General Rate Fund and under which applications for assistance from persons ineligible under Memo.266/T are considered. The scheme is administered on similar lines to the Government Scheme and the scales of payment are also identical, the main difference being that whereas under Memo.266/T maintenance allowances are paid without any test of means other than those of the applicant, it is necessary under the Local Scheme for need of assistance to be established. Provision is also included for the granting

of assistance towards the renewal of bedding, clothing, footwear etc. and in this connection applications are accepted from patients in receipt of allowances under Memo.266/T.

The following summary gives particulars of the number of applicants and applications dealt with and the amounts expended to the 30th December, 1943.

		Amounts expended.	
Total number of applicants	21		
Total number of applications	22	£279	4. 10.
Maintenance Allowances.			
Number of applicants	21		
Number of applications	21	£278	19. 10.
Discretionary Allowances.			
Number of applicants	Nil.		Nil.
Special Payments			
Number of applicants			
in Maintenance Allowances	1		
in Discretionary Allowances	—		
Others	—		
Number of applications	1	5.	0.

STRINESDALE SANATORIUM.

During the year 138 patients were admitted.

Artificial Pneumothorax. At the commencement of the year 7 patients were undergoing this form of treatment as inpatients whilst 8 were attending as outpatients. Treatment had to be discontinued during the year in 5 of these cases. A further 8 patients were induced during 1943. No bilateral artificial pneumothorax was attempted. The number of refills given totalled 425. In a number of outpatient cases refills are given at Westhulme Hospital; 7 such cases attended during the year, 79 refills being given.

Sanocrysin. Sanocrysin has been given to 19 patients during the year including 3 patients who commenced a course in the previous year. In 5 cases treatment had to be discontinued before a complete course had been given. In all, 247 injections were given during the year.

Other Treatment. Five pleural aspirations were performed during the year and the following examinations carried out:—

Blood Sedimentation 604; Urine 2,054; Sputa 402; X-Ray 105.

Dental Treatment. The arrangements for treatment remain unaltered and the following is a summary of the work carried out.

Cases Treated	Attendances for treatment	Dental Extractions	Fillings	Other Operations	Dentures Provided
56	142	77	24	84	17

The following figures give some further indication of the work of the Sanatorium.

Admissions.

	1941	1942	1943
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	119	106	124
B. Observation Cases	21	17	14

Deaths.

A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	23	26	34
B. Observation Cases, Non-T.B.	3	1	—

Discharges.

Transfers to Westhulme	1	—	—
Transfers to Boundary Park General Hospital ...	3	2	2
Transfers to Strinesdale Open Air School	3	2	—
Transfers to Withington Hospital	4	—	—
Transfers to Other Institutions	2	—	3
Discharged home	102	87	101

Condition of Patients on Discharge.

Observation Cases, Non-T.B.	12	9	8
Disease Quiescent	3	7	10
Improved	85	62	68
No material improvement	15	13	20

BOUNDARY PARK GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The following figures relate to the work of the Hospital with regard to Tuberculosis patients:—

Admissions.

	1941	1942	1943
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis:			
Pulmonary	18	12	37
Non-Pulmonary	14	16	15
B. Observation Cases:			
Pulmonary	13	24	20
Non-Pulmonary	6	6	6

Deaths.

A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	10	11	11
B. Observation Cases, Non-T.B.	1	1	1

Discharges.

Transfers to Westhulme. Pulmonary	10	8	24
Non-Pulmonary	2	5	6
Discharged home	24	32	42

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

Part I.—Summary of Notifications during the period from 1st January, 1943, to the 31st December, 1943, in the area of the County Borough of Oldham.

Age Periods.	Formal Notifications												
	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis												
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & upwards	Total (all ages)	Total Notifications.
Pulmonary Males	4	9	8	13	15	22	5	76	86
Females	4	6	11	5	4	2	...	35	37
Non-Pulmonary Males	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	19	20
" Females	2	7	5	4	1	...	1	27	30
TOTALS	8	23	25	23	20	24	6	157	173

Part II.—Supplemental Return.

New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by Formal Notification.

Age Periods.	0—1	1—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65 and up.	Total
Pulmonary, Males	1	2	1	2	1	...	7
Females	1	...	...	...	...	1	2
Non-Pulmonary Males	1	...	...	...	3
" Females	1	2	...	...	1	...	4
TOTALS	3	4	2	2	2	1	16

Source of Information.	No. of Cases	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulm'y
Death Returns—from local Registrars
transferable deaths from Registrar General
Posthumous Notifications
"Transfers" from other areas (other than transferable deaths)
Other Sources, if any (specify)

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS **Return relating to the work of the Dispensary during the year ending 31 December, 1943.**

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary												Non-Pulmonary				Total				Grand Total
	Adults			Children			Adults			Children			Adults		Children						
	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.							
A.—(1) Number of definite cases on the Dispensary Register at the beginning of the year ...	200	152	9	7			55	67		67	51		255	219	76	58	608				
(2) Transfers from other Authorities during the year ...	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	4	1	—	8				
(3) Lost sight of cases returned during the year ...	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	8				
B.—Number of new cases diagnosed as tuberculous during the year:—																					
(1) Class T.B. minus ...	31	13	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	13	—	2	46				
(2) Class T.B. plus ...	38	18	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	18	—	1	57				
(3) Non-Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	20	—	11	6	—	6	20	11	6	43				
C.—Number of cases included in A. & B. written off the Dispensary Register during the year as:—																					
(1) Recovered ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	6	8	—	4	2	—	10	9	4	2	25				
(2) Dead (all causes) ...	45	21	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	—	45	26	—	1	72				
(3) Removed to other areas ...	10	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	—	10	8	2	3	23				
(4) For other reasons ...	11	1	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	14	2	1	1	18				
D.—Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the end of the year ...	208	156	9	9	9	—	52	75	—	72	51	—	260	231	81	60	632				

VACCINATION.

During the year 1943 the Vaccination Officer issued 1,459 Q Notices requesting parents' compliance with the Acts, and 2 K Forms to defaulters. He also paid 163 home visits and notified Public Vaccinators on H. Forms of 392 cases requiring vaccination.

The following table gives details of the work of the Public Vaccinators during the year:—

District	No. of successful Primary Vaccinations of Persons			No. of successful re-vaccinations
	Under 1 year of age	One year and upwards	Total	
1	7	—	7	—
2	42	3	45	—
3	28	1	29	1
4	35	3	38	—
5	28	1	29	—
6	74	5	79	—
Totals ...	214	13	227	1

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The scheme for the treatment of patients suffering from Venereal Diseases remains as in previous years.

Regulation 33B. In January, Ministry of Health Circular 2727 was received and drew attention to Regulation 33B which had been added to the Defence (General) Regulations and which provides for the compulsory treatment of V.D. under certain circumstances. The object of the Regulation is to bring under medical care those infected persons who have shown themselves unresponsive to educational work or to methods of persuasion and who, owing to this refusal to undertake treatment, remain a constant source of danger to the health of the community and a drain on the man-power and woman-power of the nation in its war effort.

During the year 23 notices were received of contacts believed to reside in the area of the Council. All of these were females but in no case was a second notice received in respect of any one contact.

Consideration was given to the unofficial tracing of contacts outside the scope of the Regulations to persuade such contacts to be examined before he or she had been named on a second form. It is appreciated that these cases should be followed up at the earliest possible moment, but it would appear that local authorities would be running a risk in taking informal action as there is no protection under the Regulation for such action.

In December, Ministry of Health Circular 2896 was received which clarified the position but the recommendations did not become effective until the subsequent year.

Supplies of Arsenobenzene Compounds. Five doctors on the list availed themselves of this free supply, and 73 doses of various strengths of these compounds were supplied.

The return overleaf relates to all persons who were treated at the Treatment Centre during the year together with details of the pathological work involved.

In addition to the numbers given on the return the following figures indicate the numbers of Oldham persons attending Clinics in other areas:

Syphilis	...	...	...	None
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	3
Non V. D.	...	...	...	5

RETURN relating to all persons who were treated at the

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gonorrhœa		Non-venereal or undiag'd conditions		Totals		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Tot.
1. Number of cases on 1st January under treatment or observation	115	99	...	...	33	24	6	13	154	136	290
2. Number of cases removed from the register during any previous year which returned during the year under report for treatment or observation of the same infection	3	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	4	4	8
3. Number of cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report (exclusive of cases under Item 4) suffering from :—											
Syphilis, primary	20	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	2	22
„ secondary	1	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	14
„ latent in 1st year of infection*	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6
„ all later stages	17	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	21	38
„ congenital	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	9
Soft Chancre ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gonorrhœa, 1st year of infection ...	...	...	...	...	100	34	...	...	100	34	134
„ later ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2
Non-venereal conditions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	127	75	127	75	202
Conditions remaining undiagnosed at 31st December ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Number of cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report known to have received treatment for the same infection, or to have been under observation, at other Centres or Service Hospitals, or by General Practitioners approved under Ministry of Health Circular 2226	(11)	...	...	...	(4)	...	...	...	(15)	...	(15)
	6	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	7	4	11
TOTALS OF ITEMS 1, 2, 3 AND 4 ...	177	153	...	...	141	59	133	88	451	300	751
5. Number of cases discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure or after diagnosis as non-venereal...	...	2	...	...	42	22	122	71	164	95	259
6. Number of cases which ceased to attend before completion of treatment and were, on first attendance, suffering from :—											
Syphilis, primary	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	9
„ secondary	3	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	11
„ latent in 1st year of infection*	4	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	9	13
„ all later stages	20	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	12	32
„ congenital	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Soft Chancre ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gonorrhœa, 1st year of infection ...	...	...	...	...	22	18	...	...	22	18	40
„ later ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2
7. Number of cases which ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure	8	2	...	...	6	...	...	...	14	2	16
8. Number of cases transferred to other Centres or to institutions, or to care of private practitioners	5	3	...	...	15	...	4	3	24	6	30
9. Number of cases remaining under treatment or observation on 31st December...	128	115	...	...	54	19	7	14	189	148	337
TOTALS OF ITEMS 5, 6, 7, 8 AND 9 ...	177	153	...	...	141	59	133	88	451	300	751

* "Syphilis, latent in 1st year of infection," applies to cases presenting no clinical sign of syphilis but discovered by serological tests.
The figures in brackets are the number of cases in each category.

Treatment Centre during the year ended 31st December, 1943.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gon'rrhoea		Non-venereal or undiag'd conditions		Totals			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Tot.	
1. Number of attendances :—												
(a) for individual attention of the medical officer(s)	2842	2548	...	...	989	321	472	305	4303	3174	7477
(b) for intermediate treatment, c.g., irrigation, dressing	77	12	...	...	778	4	...	...	855	16	871
TOTAL ATTENDANCES	2919	2560	...	...	1767	325	472	305	5158	3190	8348
2. In-patients :—												
(a) Total number of persons admitted for treatment during the year	1	7	...	...	4	...	3	1	8	8	16
(b) Aggregate number of "in-patient days" of treatment given ...	8	193	...	...	32	...	26	20	66	213	279
3. Number of cases of congenital syphilis in Item 3 above classified according to age periods	Under 1 yr.		1 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years		15 years and over		Totals			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
	...	1	...	1	...	1	4	2	4	5		
4. Pathological Work :—	Microscopical							Others for diagnosis of Venereal Disease				
	for Syphilis				for Gonorrhoea							
	Number of specimens examined at, and by the medical officer of, the Treatment Centre				52			1270			—	

Statement showing the services rendered at the Treatment Centre during the year, classified according to the areas in which the patients resided.

Name of County or County Borough (or Country in the case of persons residing elsewhere than in England and Wales) to be inserted in these headings.	Oldham	Lancashire	Yorkshire	Rochdale	Cheshire	Manchester			Total
Number of cases from each area included under the following headings in Item 3 :—									
Syphilis	68	20	...	1	...	...			89
Soft Chancre ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...			...
Gonorrhoea	87	46	1	1	1	...			136
Non-venereal and undiagnosed conditions	133	55	11	1	...	2			202
TOTAL	288	121	12	3	1	2			427
Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area	5568	2307	281	155	23	14			8348

by blood test, etc.) to have contracted this disease within the preceding 12 months.

refer to Service Cases.

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